

REMARKS

With this Response Applicants respectfully request that claims 4-5, 7, 13-15, 17, 24-26, and 28 be canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 16, 18, 21, 27, and 29 are amended. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6, 8-12, 16, 18-23, 27, and 29-30 are pending.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants determined that there were several typographical errors in the Specification, and have pointed these out in the Amendments to the Specification section of this Response. Applicants respectfully request entering of these amendments to correct these errors.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 7-9, 17-19, and 28-29 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants have elected to incorporate the limitations of claims 7, 17, and 28 into claims 1, 11, and 21, respectively, including the limitations of intermediate dependent claims. Thus, Applicants submit that claims 1, 11, and 21 as amended herein include the subject matter found allowable in claims 7, 17, and 28. Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 11, and 21 are novel and nonobvious over the cited references. Therefore, claims 7, 17, and 28 are canceled herein, rendering objection to these claims moot, and claims 8-9, 18-19, and 29 now depend from claims that should be found allowable for at least the same reasons claims 7, 17, and 28 were found to be allowable.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,490,452 Boscovic et al. (*Boscovic*). Claim 1 as amended herein is novel over the

cited reference, as discussed above, rendering rejection of this claim moot. Because claim 1 is novel over the cited reference, Applicants submit that the remaining claims, which depend from claim 1, are patentable over the reference for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 4-6

Claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bosconvic* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,047,186 of Yu et al. (*Yu*). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bosconvic* and *Yu* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,684,086 of Miya (*Miya*). Because claim 1 is nonobvious over the cited references, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 11-16, 20-27, and 30

These claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bosconvic* and *Yu* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,684,086 of Miya (*Miya*). As set forth above, claims 11 and 21 are rewritten herein to include material found to be allowable over the cited references. Thus, these claims are nonobvious over the cited references. The remaining claims depend from claims 11 and 21, and thus depend from nonobvious base claims. Therefore, Applicants submit that the remaining claims are nonobvious over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claims 11 and 21.

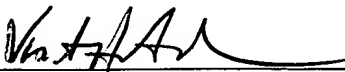
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that all rejections have been overcome placing all pending claims in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the above-referenced application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number
02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Date: 7/15/05



Vincent H. Anderson
Reg. No. 54,962

12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
Telephone: (503) 439-8778

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